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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Kadiyevka Coal Mines

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1. coal fields near the Ukrainian to50X1 of Kadiyevka (48°34'N, 38°40'E). The coal mines were spread out for an area of about 15 square miles but the particular mine was located about th50X1 miles west of Kadiyevka. The mines were worked by Soviet civilians, civilian internees and the 15 or 16 thousand POW's in our camp group. The mine had been flooded during World War II to deprive the Germans of its use but had been pumped dry and put back into production The co50X1 itself was soft and was described by one who had worked50X1 in coal mines before as being from a fairly "new" seam. It was understood that the coal was suitable for coking and that it was being shipped to the south. 50X1

2. The mine shaft was operating principally on the 400-meter level. 50X1 There was a 300-meter level also but it had been pretty well worked out. While we were working on the 400-meter level construction had already begun on a new level at 500 meters. 50X1

3. 50X1 50X1 The "longwall forward" method was used exclusively in the mine After the flooded mines had been pumped dry the terrific coal shortage in the USSR necessitated methods whereby the maximum amount of coal could be obtained in the shortest time. According to other POW's, the "Bord and Pillar" method had been used previous to the flooding but the more immediate returns available through the longwall method caused the change. The seam is about one meter wide and is of only very slight inclination. 50X1

4. 50X1 The undercutting was done by pneumatic hammer picks. No mechanical cutter50X1 loaders were used. Neither were mechanical conveyors used.

5. the coal at the mine face was loaded onto small cars which were50X1 then pushed by the men along temporary rails into the main haulage roads where 50X1

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secondary haulage was handled by battery-driven electric locomotives. On the 400-meter level the main haulage roads spread out radially from the shaft. The haulage rails converged as they neared the large central collection rooms at the shaft. 50X1

6. [redacted] 50X1

A. The coal was brought to the surface by the cars, being loaded directly onto the lift cages from a single track at the central collection point and thence being transported rapidly to the surface. Here the cars were dumped into surface rail cars and hauled away. The lifts in the shaft operated on a counter-balanced principal in 50X1 hauling the two cages to the surface. Since they were counter-balanced both were stopped or in motion at the same time. The cages were limited to carrying 30 men, although [redacted] the limitation was one of space rather than weight. The descent 50X1 from the surface to the 400-meter level took two and one-half to three minutes. The coal, of course, moved faster [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1 in at least one of the other mines in the coal fields they were using conveyors to bring the coal to the surface. 50X1

7. [redacted] 50X1 50X1

Once on the surface the coal was taken away in railroad cars and was not cleaned 50X1 or picked at the mine. We were never told about any washing facilities, although I would assume there were such at centrally located points. 50X1

8. [redacted] 50X1 50X1

[redacted] the capacity of any phase of coal production. [redacted] was a quota 50X1 for production per man [redacted] Three eight-hour shifts were in constant operation, however.

9. [redacted] 50X1 50X1 50X1

10. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] hat electricity was "purchased" as there were no generating facilities at the mine other than very light emergency equipment. Power lines entered the mine area on steel towers carrying about eight wires. As the wires continued out of the mine area in both directions I assume that all the mines in the area were interconnected for their supply of electric power.

11. [redacted] 50X1

The pitprops used in the mine [redacted] were round logs two meters in 50X1 length with average diameters of about one foot. The props were of several different kinds of wood, with pine predominant. Some were crooked. [redacted]

12. [redacted] 50X1 50X1

Split logs in two-meter lengths with average diameters of about five inches were used occasionally across the horizontal beams as "ceilings" and sometimes as "walls." There were many cave-ins rumored but exact news of them was sternly suppressed. Two men of each crew were assigned the exclusive job of patching leaks in the "walls" or "ceilings." Incidentally, once a coal seam was exhausted on one tunnel the props would not be removed for reuse in another part of the mine. 50X1

13. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] reinforced concrete arches were constructed along the main haulage corridors and in the large central collection room at the shaft. 50X1

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